

PRISONER, SPY TRADER IS HIRED BY TEAMSTERS

Learn Hoffa Retains

James Donovan

CPYRGHT

BY WILLIAM KLING

(Reprinted from yesterday's late edition)

James B. Donovan, negotiator of the Bay of Pigs prisoner swap and the Powers-Abel spy exchange, has been hired by the teamsters union in an effort to stymie further federal grand jury investigation of its pension fund, THE TRIBUNE learned Friday.

Donovan, a New York City attorney, reportedly will appear this week in federal District court to seek suppression of grand jury subpoenas for 32 more files of the 200 million dollar central states pension fund.

James R. Hoffa, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, and seven co-defendants are under indictment on charges that they obtained more than 20 million dollars by fraud from the fund. The trial is scheduled to begin here on Oct. 7 before Judge Richard B. Austin in federal District court.

He Won't Confirm It

Walter H. Moses, another attorney who THE TRIBUNE learned is working with Donovan, refused to confirm reports that Donovan has been retained.

"We have an agreement that any statements to the press about this must come from Mr. Donovan," Moses said.

Donovan took the case "as a matter of principle" because continued investigation of the fund after indictments already have been returned "constitutes harassment and is illegal."

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James P. O'Brien, United States attorney, confirmed last night that the grand jury which indicted Hoffa and the others in 1961 has not been discharged, and that the investigation is continuous.

He's a Hoffa Foe

O'Brien would not comment on whether the grand jury had issued any more subpoenas for pension fund records. One source said attorneys from the justice department in Washington were in Chicago this week. The teamster probe in Chicago has been conducted from Washington under the personal supervision of Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy, a Hoffa foe since Kennedy's days as counsel for the Senate rackets committee.

The June indictment, 55 pages in length, charged the eight defendants with 20 counts of mail fraud, seven counts of wire fraud, and one count of conspiracy. Hoffa and six other defendants pleaded not guilty. The eighth chose to remain mute.